



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2167
Examiner: Rudy, Andrew J.

In re Patent Application of:

Inventors : Charles J. Zapiec et al.

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For : PROFESSIONAL TIME TRACKING
AND RECOUPING SYSTEM AND
SOFTWARE

Attorney Ref. : AEIPT01

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

JUN 03 2002

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 22, 2002, please amend the
application as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title of the invention to read as follows:

As

--Professional Time Tracking and Reporting System--.

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GROUP 3600

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION:

05/31/2002 AOSMAN1 00000047 09636448

01 FC:126
02 FC:203

180.00 OP
36.00 OP

AMENDMENT

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, at line 20, with the following paragraph:

A2 --The present invention may be deployed on a personal computer, and enabled by a service operator who provides the time tracking and recouping system (i.e., a software implementation). In this implementation, files with web site usage information are sent periodically to the service provider which charges the user of the software based on the amount of time which they spent accessing web sites. The service provider subsequently receives periodic payments for the use of the software. The actual software may be distributed to users free of charge, and revenues can be collected as recurring payments for the use of the system.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, at line 14, with the following paragraph:

A3 --A software implementation in accordance with the principals of the present invention, may operate invisibly in the background, recording each entry including all URLs entered and sites visited. The software implementation may automatically record all the Internet activity and corresponding usage time. As an optional feature, the user may be provided with a capability to disable the functionality of the software, when the user does not wish to track the Internet usage time.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, at line 12, with the following paragraph:

AK

--FIG. 1 illustrates a time tracking and recouping system 100 in accordance with the principles of the present invention. The system is employed at a client side represented as the Personal Computer (PC) 101 to be used by a user 103 shown in the upper left-hand corner. In a law firm environment, the principles of the present invention may be implemented as software, resident on the lawyer's PC, paralegal's PC, or a centralized PC (i.e., a library PC). The software may be used to track attorney, paralegal and other professional's research time on the Internet. This may be accomplished by providing functionality that requires the lawyer or other professional to logon and enter a client matter number before using the PC to access the Internet.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, at line 17, with the following paragraph:

AK

--One feature of the system is the ability to generate revenue for the time tracking services. As shown in FIG. 1 a time tracking service provider 115 may employ software or a system that provides a service to be used by user 103 to recoup the cost of the research activity from the client. This may be accomplished by transmitting a file from the user 103 to the time tracking service provider 105 indicating the amount of time spent on the Internet. The transmitted file may be a copy of the record created by the system 100 at the user PC 101. The time tracking service provider 115, in an automated fashion, via the use of a personal computer (PC) 117 may generate an invoice for the user 103 who then pays the time tracking service provider 115 for this time tracking and recouping service system and software.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, at line 12, with the following paragraph:

24 --In one embodiment, software in accordance with the principles of the present invention resides on the user's PC 101 that automatically transmits the Internet access history of the Internet usage using an Internet File Transfer Protocol (FTP). This may occur in real-time while the user accesses the Internet. Alternatively, the transmission of the Internet access history ledger to the service provider may occur on a daily/weekly/monthly basis during off-peak hours. Preferably, the Internet usage data is collected for one Internet session (i.e., from the time the user logs on to the time when the user logs out).--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, at line 3, with the following paragraph:

27 --FIG. 9 is a flowchart for the revenue calculation function in accordance with the principles of the present invention. Generally, the revenue calculation function takes place through software operating at the client side, which may be the lawyer or other professional's site. The software or other implementation on the client side retrieves the data in step 910 from a storage location and transmits the data in step 920. In this embodiment, the data is transmitted as an FTP file containing all the relevant information regarding different Web sites the professional has accessed and the time spent on each site. Generally, the FTP transmission takes place transparent to the user and may occur in real-time while the user is accessing Web sites. As an example, the data maybe collected and transmitted for each Internet session (i.e., each time the user logs on to the